

**Minister for Small Business, Innovation, Tourism
and Trade**

Ministear airson Gnìomhachasan Beaga, Ùr-ghnàthachadh,
Turasachd agus Malairt
Richard Lochhead MSP/BPA



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Our Reference: 202300361552

Your Reference: Letter from the Scottish Biometrics Commissioner

1 August 2023

Dear Dr Plastow,

Firstly please let me thank you for taking the time to reach out on this very important and increasingly relevant issue of the use of artificial intelligence and biometrics when considering public trust.

I too share your concerns around the unregulated use of biometric technologies in areas which have not yet been fully tested and which are implemented without due consideration for the potentially damaging impacts of issues such data bias. I am also very keen that we take a balanced and well thought out approach to AI regulation and control, avoiding knee jerk reactions in response to perceived concerns. The Code of Practice you have developed is a very well thought out route to managing and removing a number of those issues.

I am very grateful for your support in relation to my Four Nations call and if you think it would be helpful I know that officials would be delighted to arrange a catch up call, to take your thoughts on the best route forward for Scotland. Please respond to ai@gov.scot if this is something you would find useful and they will take forward the arrangements.

Thank you again for your letter and for your support.

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Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot

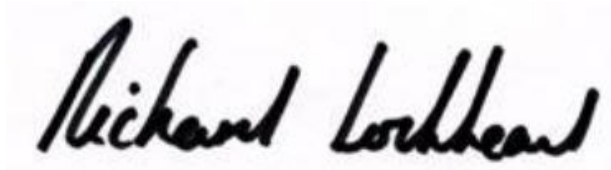
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Yours sincerely,



RICHARD LOCHHEAD

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